

and Congresswoman Katherine Harris of Florida.

Over the years, the East Room has hosted some of the White House's most memorable events. Long before any President held an awards ceremony here, it was the home to Thomas Jefferson's secretary, Meriwether Lewis, not a bad place for a guy to camp out. *[Laughter]* He didn't stay here long, because in 1803, President Jefferson gave him a new assignment, a daring mission to explore the West. The President also gave him a letter of unlimited Government credit to cover every possible expense. Disappointed to say, your medal doesn't come with such Presidential decree. *[Laughter]*

Over the centuries, the same passion for discovery that drove Lewis and Clark to the Pacific has also led bold Americans to master the miracle of flight, to conquer dreaded diseases, and explore the frontiers of space. To reward and encourage America's spirit of innovation, Congress created the National Medal of Science and National Medal of Technology. These are the most prestigious honors the President can bestow for achievement in science and technology. Today I am proud to recognize a diverse and deserving group of American citizens, what we call pioneers.

The laureates we honor today have made new and lasting contributions in fields from mathematics to behavioral science to geology to genetics. You've discovered new clues about the behavior of viruses, the workings of the human mind, and the shape of the universe. Many of your breakthroughs are changing entire industries, from airline safety to chemical production to computer software and networking. Your efforts to improve energy development and expand health care technology and reduce auto pollution are bringing the promise of a better future to people all around our globe.

Your experiences vary widely, yet all of you share some common traits. As innovators, you heard a calling to challenge the status quo. You weren't afraid to ask important questions. You applied rigorous standards to your research. I suspect some of you suffered some setbacks, yet you didn't get discouraged. You followed where the evidence led. You revised your methods but not your ambi-

tions. And through a lifetime of hard work, you have produced accomplishments that will endure beyond your years.

For most of you, the journey of this day began when someone engaged your curiosity, a schoolteacher or a parent or a caring adult in your community. As your interest grew, you found a mentor in your field, a generous soul who added to your experience and raised your sights. Many of you have repaid that debt by devoting a part of your career to teaching, and I want to thank you for that. I appreciate the fine example that you have set for aspiring young scientists, like those from Benjamin Banneker High School who are with us or the Intel Science Talent Search folks who have joined us from all around our country. I want to welcome you all here. I appreciate you witnessing this important ceremony.

As you go on to greater accomplishments, I hope our recipients will continue to foster and encourage the scientists and technological leaders of tomorrow. By pursuing your curiosity, all of you have achieved historic results. You bring credit to yourselves, to your families, and to our country. You have our country's gratitude. You have earned our respect.

Once again, thank you for coming to the White House. Congratulations for your awards. The military aide will read the citations, and afterwards, I hope you will join us in a reception—back there. *[Laughter]*

Read the awards, please.

NOTE: The President spoke at 10:24 a.m. in the East Room at the White House.

Statement on the Nomination of Karen Hughes To Be Under Secretary of State for Public Diplomacy

March 14, 2005

Our long-term strategy to keep the peace is to help change the conditions that give rise to extremism and terror by spreading the universal principle of human liberty. This will require an aggressive effort to share and communicate America's fundamental values

while respecting the cultures and traditions of other nations.

Karen Hughes has been one of my most trusted and closest advisers, and she has the experience, expertise, and judgment to lead this critical effort. Her return to public service in this important position signifies my personal commitment to the international diplomacy that is needed in these historic times. I value her counsel and friendship, as does Secretary Rice.

**Executive Order 13374—
Amendments to Executive Order
12293—The Foreign Service of the
United States**

March 14, 2005

By the authority vested in me as President by the Constitution and the laws of the United States of America, including section 402 of the Foreign Service Act of 1980, as amended (22 U.S.C. 3962), and in order to adjust the basic salary rates for each class of the Senior Foreign Service, it is hereby ordered as follows:

Section 1. Section 4 of Executive Order 12293 of February 23, 1981, as amended, is amended to read as follows:

“**Sec. 4.** Pursuant to section 402 of the Foreign Service Act (22 U.S.C. 3962), and subject to any restrictions therein, there are established the following salary classes with titles for the Senior Foreign Service, at the following ranges of basic rates of pay:

- (a) Career Minister
Range from 100 percent of the minimum rate of basic pay for senior-level positions under 5 U.S.C. 5376 to 100 percent of the rate payable for level II of the Executive Schedule.
- (b) Minister-Counselor
Range from 100 percent of the minimum rate of basic pay for senior-level positions under 5 U.S.C. 5376 to 107 percent of the rate payable for level III of the Executive Schedule.
- (c) Counselor
Range from 100 percent of the minimum rate of basic pay for senior-level positions under 5 U.S.C. 5376

to 102 percent of the rate payable for level III of the Executive Schedule.”

Sec. 2. Section 2 of Executive Order 12293, as amended, is amended by striking “the Director of the International Communication Agency, the Director of the United States International Development Cooperation Agency” and inserting in lieu thereof “the Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development”.

Sec. 3. Executive Order 13325 of January 23, 2004, is revoked.

Sec. 4. This order is not intended to, and does not, create any right or benefit, substantive or procedural, enforceable by any party at law or in equity against the United States, its departments, agencies, entities, officers, employees, or agents, or any other person.

George W. Bush

The White House,
March 14, 2005.

[Filed with the Office of the Federal Register, 8:45 a.m., March 16, 2005]

NOTE: This Executive order was published in the *Federal Register* on March 17.

**Memorandum on Delegation of
Reporting Function Related to the
Sudan Peace Act**

March 14, 2005

Memorandum for the Secretary of State

Subject: Delegation of Reporting Function
Related to the Sudan Peace Act

By virtue of the authority vested in me as President by the Constitution and the laws of the United States, including section 301 of title 3, United States Code, I hereby delegate to you the reporting function conferred upon the President by section 6(e) of the Sudan Peace Act (Public Law 107–245).

You are authorized and directed to publish this memorandum in the *Federal Register*.

George W. Bush